Equal Rights

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Alice Paul

Member of the National Council of the National Woman's Party and Representative of the United States on the Women's Consultative Committee of the League of Nations, who has just arrived in France to confer with Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, President of the Woman's Party, regarding international work for Equal Rights. Miss Paul is the leader of the Feminist movement in America and is commonly regarded as one of the greatest statesmen of her epoch.

Equal Rights

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OBJECT OF THE WOMAN'S PARTY

The object of this organization shall be to secure for women complete equality with men under the law and in all human relationships.

THE LUCRETIA MOTT AMENDMENT

"Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction."

"Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

[Senate Joint Resolution Number 52]
[House Joint Resolution Number 55]
Introduced in the Senate June 4, 1929, by Senator Gerald P. Nye, North Dakota.
Introduced in the House April 25, 1929, by Representative Frederick W. Magrady, Pennsylvania.

A New Slant on Jury Service

TO THOSE who consider the statement that "many women do not want jury service," a sufficient argument against opening the jury box to women, the following editorial from the Milwaukee *Sentinel*, presenting a similar lack of masculine enthusiasm, is pressingly commended:

The National Woman's Party, a Feminist organization, will take a Massachusetts case to the United States Supreme Court to test the right of a woman to be tried by woman jurors. The Supreme Court of Massachusetts refused to recognize this right.

Women should be permitted to serve on juries everywhere. The right to serve appears to us to be implicit in the Nineteenth Amendment.

The average American male regards jury service not as a highly desirable privilege, but as an inescapable nuisance. He will be eager to see women serving, wherever he lives. If the Supreme Court of the United States recognizes the right of women to be jurors, the men of that State will welcome the doubling of their chance of escaping the panel.

Why not start a movement to make jury service an exclusive privilege of the ladies?

Congratulations to Doris Stevens

THE nomination of Doris Stevens, Chairman of the Inter-American Commission of Women and world-wide leader in the campaign for woman's equality before the law, to membership in the American Institute of International Law has called forth innumerable congratulatory messages. Miss Stevens is the first woman to be a member of this distinguished juridical body, membership in which is limited to five international publicists for each of the twenty-one republics. She will take the post formerly occupied by Elihu Root, which has been vacant since his election to the honorary presidency of the Institute.

EQUAL RIGHTS desires to congratulate Miss Stevens upon the unprecedented honor that has been bestowed upon her, and transmits herewith a few of the messages that have been received commending the enlightened action of the American Institute of International Law:

"Gunnar and I congratulate you most heartily in your new, unique and distinguished position. We feel sure that you will devote all your energy and ability to this responsible work. . . ."

JUANITA MOLINA DE FROMEN,
Nicaraguan Commissioner.

"I see your nomination to the American Institute of International Law, and mightily rejoice thereat. A thousand congratulations and good wishes. . ."

HELEN A. ARCHDALE,
Chairman Equal Rights International.

"I have intended to write you before to tell you of the rejoicing here when we heard of your nomination to membership in the American Institute of International Law. We are all so proud of you. . . . Congratulations and best regards."

JANE NORMAN SMITH,
Member National Council, Natnonal Woman's Party.

"Your noble efforts to aid in the amelioration of woman's lot, politically, socially and economically, by means of international media, and your recent nomination to the American Institute of International Law, will serve as the connecting link between women's organizations all over the world and the legal profession internationally. . . . I wish you every success in your work and every joy to be derived from your sincere efforts. . . ."

ROSE ELLEN KLUGER,
Graduate Student, Columbia University.

"Have just been reading the news of your nomination to membership in the American Institute of International Law, Miss Stevens, and am hastening this note to tell of the interest of groups of women of whom you never even heard, but who appreciate all you are doing.

"This is meant merely to tell you how much you are appreciated by me and thousands of others, and we are all delighted and relieved that Doris Stevens is to be on the job with the Institute.

"Much luck and much love!"

RUTH TAUNTON,
Anaheim Bulletin, Anaheim, California.

Convention Takes Up Specific Equal Rights Points

EQUALITY in jury service, in industry, in nationality, were some of the questions discussed at the second business meeting of the National Woman's Party Biennial Convention held Sunday, December 6, in the Hotel Mayflower in Washington.

Stressing the danger which protectionist laws hold for women in industry, Josephine Casey, field organizer, urged the fighting of laws barring women from night work.

"This is an important time for all women," she said.

"Where do you want to be ten years from now?

"Years ago women used to go around with baskets over their arms handing out charity — thinking they helped labor. Then women tried to help the working girl. But they wanted the working woman to thrown her arms around their necks and say:

" 'Aren't you wonderful!'

"But the time has come when women must follow truth in a higher development. The time has come for you to arise and if you don't arise, ten years from now you're going to be a pitiful sight!"

As a field organizer who has talked to thousands of workers and made personal contact with working women as one of their group, Miss Casey stated positively that working women throughout the country did not want protective legislation.

" 'There are women who would starve if that bill for no night work went through'," Miss Casey quoted workers as saying.

"People are getting out that humanitarian blah, she said, 'Women and children first, boys, no matter where it is.' First to be discharged, they mean.

"Labor with principle is strong. But labor without principle is wavering. Labor organizations must revise themselves. There must be equality between the sexes or there won't be harmony.

"The women of the South were grateful to us," Miss Casey continued. "Someday the women of the South are going to release the country. That release is coming on the wave of equality.

"It has been a great comfort to have the National Woman's Party behind me. The National Woman's Party never acts on impulse. It has all its data and all its bills tabulated before it takes a step. The different State officers co-operate admirably.

"I had hoped to go to Arkansas but the Governor of Rhode Island appointed three men to investigate women in night work. Out of 1,000 night workers, there are only five or six who wouldn't starve if they were deprived of their jobs. The No-Night-Work-Law will not go through in Rhode Island because the women are aroused.

"In a great many of the mills where women work nights, conditions are better. Sometimes girls prefer night work because they get shorter hours. One woman spoke to me about a man who opposed night work for her sex:

" 'He says night work is too hard for women'," she said. "How does he know what's too hard for women? He's never been a woman."

FOLLOWING a glowing tribute to her work by Miss Casey, Muna Lee, Director of National Activities, gave a detailed report of the work of the National Woman's Party from month to month.

"When I came here from Porto Rico, I had the message of Governor Roosevelt with me," she said.

"His words were: 'Certainly we must have international equality."

"When I arrived in Washington, Alice Paul was in the midst of her splendid work in Geneva. The day before I arrived, our National Council chairman, Mrs. Harvey Wiley, had asserted the equality of women in industry.

"Mrs. Wiley's assertion and appeal was followed by many others."

Illustrating the current attitude toward women, the speaker told a story of the Turks and Armenians. When the Armenian women, subjected to all sorts of brutality by the Turks, appealed to their husbands and sons for shelter and for entrance to a stronghold beseiged by the Turks, the Armenian troops trained their guns on their own women, killing them, so that their entrance to the city would not reduce the food supply.

"During this depression, it is men themselves who have been training their guns on women," she said. "And in the last year and a half, whenever women were attacked, we tried to come to the rescue.

"When we hear of injustices, we appeal through the press. We send messages to the Governors of different States. We work both from the office at headquarters and from State offices."

In outlining the work of the National Woman's Party from month to month, Miss Lee mentioned the demand of the District of Columbia Branch that more women be called for jury service and the opening last October of the jury service lists at which women wishing such service might register.

November was devoted to an attack on more legislation discriminating against women, she stated.

In January the dedication of the Alva Belmont house took place together with the hearing of a bill on the preservation of Headquarters.

February marked two nationwide broadcasts during which Democrats and Republicans told what they had done for women and Maud Younger pointed out what neither party had done for the sex.

During March, telegrams were sent to Governors of States protesting discriminatory legislation. Out of some twenty answers received, not one Governor was willing to go on record as standing for discrimination, Miss Lee pointed out.

In April, Josephine Casey went to Georgia to investigate protectionist legislation there. During this month the National Woman's Party protested the deportation of Lillian Larsh.

In May, the Party Workers' Conference was held during which important work on nationality was accomplished. Letters giving the substance of the new nationality law were sent to all legations and embassies.

During June, resolutions of the Party Workers' Conference were transmitted to authorities, and a request was made that women natives of the United States who have lost their nationality by marriage be instructed as to the privilege of repatriation their birth brings with it.

Industrial equality campaigns marked July.

Doris Stevens and Alice Paul were welcomed home in August and September following the creation of a Women's Consultative Committee by the League of Nations.

In October, Mrs. Wiley headed other members of the National Woman's Party in a trip through Indiana, Ohio, and West Virginia where they spread the doctrine of equality.

November marked the Council meeting and December the Biennial Convention.

SPEAKING of her work as congressional chairman, Maud Younger, told of what had been accomplished for equality while the Seventy-first Congress had come and gone.

"Hearings were held on four questions of Equal Rights with a fifth hearing on our national headquarters," she said.

"When we heard that our national headquarters were threatened we went to work at once lobbying," she continued. "We gathered data everywhere. On the day of the hearing, we had a large crowd for we had sent out messages to all our members.

" 'See here, you can't run this committee,' I was told.

"But Burnita Matthews was there with her pads and charts and all her data. And headquarters were preserved.

"During the nationality conference at

The Hague which Alice Paul was attending, we sent a delegation to President Hoover. Miss Paul had informed us that the League of Nations draft with all its discriminations against women would be accepted. We had only ten days. And that was one of the busiest times we ever had. Time after time I went to Senators. Our own Senator T. H. Caraway was the first to say he would not ratify a treaty with discriminations. Finally a third of the Senate took the same stand. And the draft was not accepted."

Miss Younger recalled the stirring wait for cables telling of the decision of the conference and the joy with which the stand of the United States was received.

Miss Younger told of the work for the Cable bill and of its significance for the National Woman's Party. In speaking of the Equal Rights International organization formed at Geneva, to work by treaty, Miss Younger stressed the fact that the United States must help women of other countries.

Laura Berrien, District of Columbia, treasurer of the National Woman's Party, described the first meeting of the Inter-American Conference at Havana in 1930. During the conference, delegates were the guests of the Cuban Government, and as such were extensively entertained, Miss Berrien said.

"We were entertained by all authorities," she said. "We had all our sessions in the University of Havana and we had to divide up because of so many festivities. The convention was to last three or four days. It lasted eight. The Cuban women were with us en masse. Only our first meeting was private. At all other meetings, rooms were crowded to capacity.

"Nationality laws were stressed.. It was decided that research would be made into all laws discriminatory to women of South America."

Fanny Bunand Sevastos, executive secretary of the Inter-American Commission of Women, recounted the accomplishments of her group.

"We first knew each other through the Havana Conference," she said. "We are all agreed on one point there; we must equalize the position of women before the law.

"Following the Havana Conference, we began to compile the laws of our countries. We sent questionnaires to different members. These are filled out and okayed by the governments. We must keep in constant touch with all Latin-American countries searching for discriminations against women in laws.

"Much of our work consists of translation and correspondence. When we have publicity to give out, we must spread the news of our Commission through 600 Latin-American newspapers."

ANOTHER aspect of Equal Rights — jury service was presented by Gail Laughlin, National Council vice-chairman, who stressed the importance of a test case on the Fourteenth Amendment.

"The achievements of the Welosky case are uncertain," she stated. "But at least, we have the opinion of the Massachusetts Supreme Court. Mrs. Welosky was convicted by a Massachusetts jury for violation of the liquor laws. Her lawyers challenged the legality of the jury trying the case on the grounds that all women were excluded from it.

"The Massachusetts law states that jurors are to be selected from a list of qualified voters. The Massachusetts Supreme Court interpreted the law to mean qualified men voters.

"In 1879, a Negro convicted of murder in West Virginia, appealed his case to the Supreme Court of the United States claiming he was denied equal protection as provided by the Fourteenth Amendment. The Supreme Court held the law of West Virginia making Negroes ineligible for jury service, unconstitutional under the Fourteenth Amendment, for it denied the Negro part of his equal protection by law in that his race was excluded from jury service, puting his race in an inferior position.

"The Fourteenth Amendment was put into the law primarily to apply to Negroes. But it has been extended to other persons—even to those pseudo persons, women.

"We are at last able to ask the Supreme Court of the United States whether women are entitled to protection under the Fourteenth Amendment—whether the Constitution throws its guarantee of protection to the woman citizen or whether we are still the beggar before the gate."

Concluding the meeting, a stirring appeal from Florence Bayard Hilles for funds brought forth pledges amounting to $5,000.

Elizabeth T. Kent, of California, presided at the meeting, introducing speakers. Emma Fox, of Michigan, acted as parliamentarian during all business sessions of the organization.

Equal Rights Dinner: Sparkling and Earnest

"'BUT haven't women always had the vote, Mother?'

"That was the question my small daughter asked me when I spoke of my privilege," said Izetta Jewel Brown Miller, toastmistress, at the Equal Rights dinner given Sunday, December 6 at the Hotel Mayflower.

Combining both wit and graciousness in her introduction of speakers, Mrs. Miller made a sparkling addition to the dinner which was attended by more than three hundred guests and members of the National Woman's Party as the climax of their Biennial Convention.

"And it seemed to me an impossibility that we had not always voted," Mrs. Miller continued.

Briefly, she sketched the work done in the past for Equal Rights and then introduced the first speaker, Dr. James Brown Scott, president of the American Institute of International Law, as an "unconquerable Feminist."

"What International Jurists Have Done for Feminism in 1931," was Dr. Scott's subject. His address, crammed with witty allusions, will be printed in the next issue of EQUAL RIGHTS.

"The nationality of a woman should not be changed without her consent," was one of the chief messages of his talk.

"Nor in the future, should her wishes be guessed at, as in the past, by men, however enlightened."

Dr. Scott condemned discrimination between sexes as inconsistent with the nature of human law. Laws should be made by both of the sexes so that each could be a check on the other, he urged. The union of men and women should be the union of equality, he pointed out.

Arguing for women in high positions he cited Queen Elizabeth, Isabella, The Catholic, and, in present days, Queen Wilhelmina, as outstanding leaders of men. Although married to a German prince, Queen Wilhelmina kept her citizenship—and her daughter will inherit her throne from her mother, not her father, he alleged.

"Why must we appeal the Welosky case?" demanded Gail Laughlin, brilliant jurist and Feminist author of the California law making women eligible for jury service.

Briefly and clearly, so that a layman could understand the issues, she outlined the Welosky case and the attitude of the Massachusetts State Legislature that women were not to have jury service:

"Because forsooth, the Massachusetts law says jurors should be picked from persons who are qualified voters—and the Massachusetts Supreme Court held that it was not the intent of the framers of the law that women should vote since they were not voting when the law was formed," she said.

Miss Laughlin was admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of the United States on December 7, and will handle the Welosky case if it is appealed to that court.

"The biggest thing suffrage has done for women is that it has changed the attitude toward them," Miss Laughlin continued. "Not that we care very much if X or Y be elected but that we have the right to vote for X or Y.

"The greatest obstacle to Equal Rights is the deep-rooted antagonism against women—a prejudice so deep that it was thought that liberty to vote was a marvelous thing for men but that it would only double the vote were it given to women."

"We now have the opinion of the State Supreme Court of Massachusetts on women's eligibility to jury service. In appealing the case to the Supreme Court we will put at issue whether or not women have at last broken into the Constitution.

"If we lose, we have not lost a particle. We will at least have the authority of the highest tribunal of the land that women are denied from jury service. If we win, we have taken a step second only to equal suffrage. And failure is impossible, for the movement is ever onward."

"Equal Rights in Nationality will be obtained in the next session of Congress," Representative John L. Cable of Ohio, father of the Cable Act, promised the National Woman's Party in his address.

"In 1907, Congress, in its wisdom, passed a bill providing that if an American woman married a foreigner, she should cease to be a citizen," said Representative Cable. "Today Equal Rights with men exist with a few discriminanations.

"The child of an American father born abroad is an American citizen though its mother is not a citizen. But the child of an American mother and a foreign father born outside the United States is an alien.

"There is a quota discrimination so far as the American-born wife of an alien is concerned.

"If the foreign-born father becomes an American citizen, his minor children are American citizens. If the foreign-born mother becomes on American citizen, her minor children do not become so.

"These discriminations must be removed.

"The National Woman's Party may have rough sledding but it will win in the end."

As secretary of the Industrial Council of Rhode Island, Kathleen O'Connell urged that protectionist measures be fought.

"If no-night-work laws were passed, more than one thousand women in one mill alone would be thrown out of work. Only six of these could afford to lose their jobs. If the others lost employment they might starve.

" 'Oh, God! Make the women stand together a few years longer until I can raise my children!' one of the night workers said to me before I left for the convention."

Juanita Molina de Fromen, representative of Nicaragua on the Inter-American Commission of Women, spoke briefly on the work of her group.

"Women are beginning to realize that their happiness must not depend on the whim of men alone," she said.

"Since time immemorial men have ruled the world, and it cannot be said they have been highly successful at it. It is needless to say that we will need the help of men in our work. And we now have the authority to voice our rights."

Speaking on the Equal Rights Amendment, Mrs. Harvey W. Wiley, re-elected National Council chairman, talked of the necessity of removing discriminations, stressing the fact that the vote did not put women on an equal plane with men.

"The National Woman's Party reorganized ten years ago to remove discriminations against women in the United States and the different States," she said. "Since then, we have had to spread our work outside the country.

"There is work for all of us here at home. We must add an amendment to the Constitution that laws in the States be the same for men and women.

"There are discriminations of two kinds against women. There is the discrimination of the past, and there is the discrimination imposed every year, in every State —the so-called protective legislation. To remove discriminatory statutes one by one is tedious. We can never get the equality program bit by bit; we must get it by a constitutional amendment.

"In 144 years, less than 6 per cent. of the betterments of the Constitution have been for women, so poetically called, 'the better half.'"

"Recently, I saw the Statue of Liberty and I wanted to say to her:

" 'Come down off your pedestal. Pedestals are out of date for women. Tuck up your skirts and help us pass the Equal Rights Amendment. Women don't want to be men's superiors. They only want to be men's equals.'

"If Dr. Scott, president of the American Institute of International Law, is willing to go on record in favor of equality in nationalism, then why should not our Congressman John L. Cable introduce the Twentieth Amendment?"

Mrs. Wiley expressed the regret of Maud Younger, congressional chairman of the National Woman's Party, in not being able to appear on the program because of illness. In conclusion, she requested that Grace Hoffman White be asked to read her sonnet to Alice Paul.

Nina Allender was chairman of the dinner committee; Mrs. Karl Greene of New Mexico, chairman of flowers; and Hazel Clark Taylor of Missouri, chairman of decorations. The dinner committee also included the following: Joy Webster, Mabel Van Dyke, Margaret Luers, Mrs. Ernest Daniel, Grace Hoffman White, Mrs. Paul Myron Linebarger, Genevieve Wimsett, Mary Powell, Lucy Show, and Pearl Crocker.

Report of the Inter-American Commission of Women

Statement by Fanny Bunand-Sevastos, Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Commission of Women, Before the Biennial Convention of the National Woman's Party, Held at the Hotel Mayflower, December 5 to 7, 1931.

WHEN you assembled in convention two years ago the Inter-American Commission of Women had just started into being and was not yet fully organized. The Commission, leaving aside the nationality committee, was composed of its chairman, of the commissioners from Argentina, Colombia, Haiti, Panama, Salvador, Venezuela, and of its executive secretary. It was only at the first conference of the Inter-American Commission of Women, held in Havana in 1930, that our Commissioners had the first opportunity to know and appreciate one another and also to make plans to carry out the work entrusted to them. By that time the Commission had increased the number of its members to sixteen, and recently two other governments have appointed their representatives. The only countries which are not yet represented on the Commission are Bolivia, Honduras and Uruguay. We hope these three governments will soon appoint their representatives, thus enabling the women of the twenty-one American republics to present an united front at the Seventh Pan-American Conference to be held in Montevideo in 1932.

It is a most picturesque group of women I have been asked to describe to you today. Very briefly, I would like to say a word of our newly appointed Commissioners. Although they come from different lands, although they do not all speak the same language, and although their interests are diverse, there is one point on which all these women agree: that is to equalize the position of the women of the Americas before the law.

Brazil has sent to us Sra. Flora de Oliveira Lima. Many of you know this beautiful white-headed lady, whose extreme distinction reminds me of one of

Goya's portraits. When she enters the room I always have a feeling she has just come down from her frame. Mrs. de Lima, with her husband, the late Brazilian diplomat, Manuel de Oliveira Lima, were envoys in many European and American countries and were in Washington many years as representatives of their country. Mrs. de Lima is actually assistant librarian of the Catholic University, especially commissioned to take charge of the Ibero American Library, consisting of 40,000 volumes, which her husband bequeathed to the university. Among her many accomplishments, Mrs. de Lima speaks five languages. Very fittingly she is the diplomat of our group, and when we were in Havana, whenever delicate situations arose, we turned to her and with the grace and charm which characterize her she always knew a way of solving difficulties.

Srta. Aida Parada, appointed by the Government of Chile, is among our younger members. She returned to her country a short while ago after a long stay in New York, where she received the titles of bachelor of sciences and master of arts in the Teachers' College of the University of Columbia. She had been selected with twenty-four other professors to study the educational system of the United States and Europe. Since her return to Chile, Srta. Parada has helped the Commission secure the appointment of Marta Vergara as technical advisor on the Chilean delegation to the last assembly of the League, at which meeting you will remember was presented the report of the Women's Consultative Committee on Nationality. It was therefore most precious to have a friend on one of the delegations.

Sra. Lydia Fernandez Jimenez, commissioner from Costa Rica, like Srta. Parada, is also an educator. In addition, she is the leader of the Feminist movement in Costa Rica. Sra. Jimenez is most faithful in keeping in touch with us. In her last letter she tells us that at the opening of Congress she will lead a strong campaign to obtain suffrage for the women of Costa Rica.

Cuba appointed as its representative a charming young leader of the Alianza Nacional Feminista, Elena Mederos de Gonzalez. Beautiful and competent, her colleagues say she was chosen as commissioner to represent Cuba because of her distinguished and efficient work as officer of the Alianza. During the Havana Conference Mrs. Gonzalez was most active and her assistance invaluable.

Sra. Gloria Moya de Jimenez was appointed by the Government of the Dominican Republic just before the Havana Conference. At that time she and her husband were the representatives of their country in Cuba, and by her personality and brilliant intellect she added great prestige to our group.

It was also during the Havana Conference that we received the news of the appointment by the Government of Guatemala of Sra. Irene de Peyre, who is one of the distinguished educators of her country.

Sra. Margarita Robles de Mendoza, commissioner from Mexico, is an educator and a psychologist. She started her career as a writer at the age of 16. Mrs. Mendoza represented her State of Morelos at the first Feminist Congress of Mexico in 1921. She was representative of the Mexican Department of Education in Los Angeles, 1924-1928, and in New York City in 1929. She was commissioned by the Los Angeles Board of Education to correct errors in text-books used in California schools, and vice-versa. She is the author of the "Evolution of the Mexican Women." We are expecting Mrs. Mendoza shortly in Washington, where she is coming to help with the work of the Commission.

Nicaragua sent us a treasure in the person of Juanita Molina de Fromen. Sra. de Fromen, whom you will have the pleasure to hear and meet this evening at the Equal Rights dinner, has been since her appointment one of the most active commissioners. Eloquent speaker, I am sure her wit will delight you all. Mrs. de Fromen was one of the group who at Havana worked unceasingly — day and night. After the sessions were over she could always be found in the work-room drafting resolutions, helping write up the minutes or taking care of the press. Sra. de Fromen's enthusiasm, her good-will and energy were an inspiration to those who approached her. Actually, she teaches in the high schools of New York. She was also educational adviser to the Government of Nicaragua during one year.

Since the Havana Conference two new commissioners have been appointed. They are Doña Rosa Huerta de Viteri of Ecuador and Sra. Carmen G. de Ynsfran from Paraguay. Sra. Viteri and Sra. Ynsfran are already known to the members of the District Branch of the National Woman's Party, as they have both been guests at Alva Belmont House. They are well known to Washingtonians, since Sra. de Ynsfran's husband is the Chargé d'Affaires of Paraguay to this country, and since Sr. Viteri was in this city as Minister until just a few days ago. Sra. de Viteri, of a dark striking beauty, is a gifted pianist. She has devoted much of her time to the adaptation to modern use, of the plaintive Inca music of her land. Centering her interest on the improvement of the existing conditions for the women of Ecuador, it is most appropriate that her Government chose her as its representative on the Inter-American Commission of Women. Though we know Sra. Viteri will work most effectively for our great cause upon her return in Ecuador, we deplore her absence among us today. Her departure from this country is felt by many of us not only as the loss of a capable collaborator, but also as that of a dear friend.

Our last commissioner appointed is the youthful and charming Sra. Carmen G. de Ynsfran. When you meet her the first time you are at once under the charm of her strong personality. She has been especially active in the Feminist movement of Paraguay, and she was one of the founders of the Asociacion Feminista de Asuncion. She was a teacher of history in the normal school of professors of Asuncion, and is also one of the founders of the first kindergartens. We are most fortunate to have her right here in Washington, where we can consult and cooperate with her.

Srta. Belen de Osma was lately appointed, in replacement of Sra. Obregoso de Prevost, by the Peruvian Government, to represent her country on the Commission. Sra. de Prevost, due to ill health, has been obliged to resign from the Commission. Srta. Belen de Osma is the chairman of the Sociedad Entre Nous and very prominent in her country.

One of the resolutions adopted by the first conference of the Inter-American Commission of Women stipulated that each commissioner must start at once to compile the laws of her country affecting the position of women. As a result of this resolution a questionnaire was drafted and sent to the various commissioners. The questionnaire covers the following main points: Parental rights; marital rights and public relations. Answers to these have already been received from Cuba, Costa Rica, Chile, Haiti, Nicaragua, Mexico and Venezuela. Bolivia, as we have no commissioner appointed to date, has been done by Mrs. Rogers, who with boundless energy and good-will has tackled the constitution and civil code of Bolivia and has had more than one obstacle to overcome, the first one being that she is not familiar with the language. We feel really deeply indebted to her for her courage and admire her enterprising spirit.

The questionnaire before being returned to us are submitted by our commissioner to the Foreign Office of their respective countries. There it is examined by the legal department and returned bearing the governmental approval. When all questionnaires are returned a huge work of translation and compilation will still remain to be done.

Before closing I will say just a few words of the general routine work of the Commission. One of our first duties is to keep in close contact with our commissioners. We also keep in touch with many of the Feminist associations of Latin America. Most of them receive EQUAL RIGHTS and they send us their

publications. Often they write for advice, sometimes they invite us to participate in their activities. At the recent Second Feminist Congress held in Brazil the Commission was represented by Srta. Carmen Velasco Portinho. Some of you may recall her as she visited your headquarters, when she came to Washington two years ago. She was the only woman delegate from Brazil to the International Road Conference. She and Bertha Lutz, at the request of Doris Stevens, secured the passage by the Congress of a resolution endorsing Alice Paul's nationality treaty. This was most helpful, as their Congress was meeting simultaneously with the Women's Consultative Committee, and the cable telling of the endorsement arrived in Geneva in the midst of the discussion. The work done from our headquarters in Washington consists of general correspondence, answering inquiries about our activities, keeping records in order, interviewing foreign diplomats, gathering information and drawing up reports. All the translation is also done in the office. Much time is also devoted to the preparation of field campaigns. Finally we spread the news of the Commission to Latin American countries, and when we send a full release we have to cover about six hundred newspapers and magazines.

Feminist Notes

Married Women Workers in Wisconsin

GOVERNOR PHILIP F. LA FOLLETTE of Wisconsin has appointed a State committee of three to continue work on the problem of reducing the number of married women in the State's service.

This committee was named at a meeting of State department heads. A resolution was adopted to study statistics compiled by the bureau of personnel and to formulate plans for coping with the duplicate employment of married couples.

Members of the committee are President Glenn Frank of the University of Wisconsin, Fred M. Wilcox, chairman of the Industrial Commission, and W. J. Conway, chairman of the Tax Commission.

Under a resolution to be introduced in the State Legislature by Senator Elmer S. Hall of Green Bay, married women working for the State of Wisconsin would be fired from their jobs unless they could prove they had husbands or families to support. The ban on married women workers is intended to apply to the Capitol, the State University, teachers' colleges and other State institutions.

Recently Governor La Follette called upon Wisconsin industrialists to spread availbale employment among as many families as possible. The employers pledged themselves to do so and suggested that the State follow a similar policy in public service.

Statistics have already been presented to the Governor's committee showing that the number of married couples employed by State departments and the University has decreased by 26 per cent., from eighty-six to sixty-four during the nine months from February 1 to November 1 of this year.

The committee's recommendation will be reported to the larger group of all State departments heads.

Word also comes from Omaha, Nebraska, that the Union Pacific Railroad announced on November 26 that in the future no married women will be accepted as employes at headquarters at Omaha. The order does not affect married women now employed by the railroad. Unmarried women now working at headquarters will be dismissed if married in the future, the order says.

Equality in Law Enforcement

BECAUSE Judge Utaley Crane of Philadelphia is enough of a Feminist to declare publicly that laws were made to govern "men and women alike," an 18-year-old high school girl is languishing in jail.

Mary Mazmanian was sentenced to jail for six months on charges of assault and battery by automobile. She crashed into a drug store window while seeking to avoid hitting a truck. Witnesses declared that she was going more than 50 miles an hour, but she denied the charge. Two men in the drug store were injured.

The Mayor and many influential citizens have attempted to persuade the Judge to review the case immediately, but he has refused to consider it until the regular parole period.

"No one can stampede me into releasing this girl before I think she is properly punished," Judge Crane says. "If this young lady is not guilty of a first-class case of criminal negligence, then I don't know what would constitute such a charge."

The Judge made his equal legal rights statement when he sentenced Miss Mazmanian.

Suffrage Fight in Mexico

WOMAN suffrage is a highly agitated question in Mexico now. Whether or not they win, the Mexican women are making a strong fight for Equal Rights and have progressed to the point of having a suffrage bill introduced into the Chamber of Deputies for them and of worrying important politicians into opposition.

Woman's contribution to the celebration of the twenty-first anniversary of the Mexican Revolution, which fell on November 20, was a demonstration and determined plea for suffrage and equality. Five thousand women banded together and announced that they would appear before the home of General Plutarco Elias Calles and then parade to the Chamber of Deputies to attempt to present their plea for the vote.

A bill granting women over 21 the right to vote and to hold public office, including membership in both chambers of Congress, was introduced in the Chamber of Deputies by Faustino Roel. The reaction of political authorities seems most unfavorable in spite of a short-lived enthusiasm at the time the bill was introduced.

Now the opinion seems to be that the "time is not yet ripe for Mexico to admit females to legislative bodies."

Discussing the proposal with representatives of the press, Dr. Amel Barocio Garcia, a leading politician, said:

"Votes for women would be dangerous. Their election to the legislative chambers would be a menace to the revolution, for the Church of Rome is patently the owner of a majority of the feminine consciences in this republic."

Deputy Jose Rivera treated the matter in a lighter vein when he said, "If the men of Mexico often fail to understand politics, what can we expect from the women."

Women Run Polls

WHEN women were given complete charge of the polls at Childersburg, Alabama, for the first time recently, the voting was brisk throughout the day, though in other parts of the State it lagged.

At the Childersburg polls women were both managers and clerks.

Churches Progress

PROGRESS toward Equal Rights for women in the churches of the country is registered by measures recently taken by the Presbyterian Church and by the Methodist Church.

After a spirited debate the Philadelphia Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church approved an overture to admit women to the general council, the highest executive body of the denomination. To become effective, however, the overture must be approved by the majority of Presbyteries throughout the country.

At a recent meeting of the ecumenical conference of the Methodist Church in Atlanta, Georgia, women were admitted as full-fledged delegates for the first time since the first international meeting of the church held 60 years ago.

Only 26 women were given delegates' rights at the session, as compared to 550 men.

Women "Tars"

WHETHER it's swabbing decks or piloting a boat, women can do it, and do it well, according to Dulce Hazel Griffiths, who conducts a school for women sailors in England.

She has tested out her theory aboard her training ship, the seven-ton yawl, Jaunita, where women recruits are given a turn at all the jobs, from polishing the rails to coiling ropes and steering.

Now Mrs. Griffiths is hunting for a woman yacht owner willing to employ an all-woman crew.

"Anybody who decides to take on women," she says, "will find that it pays every time — especially just now when women, on their mettle to show the stuff they are made of, are to be relied on for endurance, enterprise and a conscientious eye to safety."

Gets Jobs in Turkey

AMERICAN women seem to find jobs wherever they are. Claris E. Mills of Princeton, New Jersey, has lived in Instanbul, Turkey, for the past ten years and her home has become an employment bureau mobbed daily by jobless Turks.

She has been carrying on independent voluntary social work in Instanbul during her entire time there, and in addition to seeking her for help in finding work, the Turks come for aid concerning sickness or schooling.

A unique job which she found recently for a unique applicant was the task of collecting grasshoppers for a Russian woman's pet monkey given by Miss Mills to a 15-year-old Caucasian refugee prince for the princely wage of 15 cents a day, a living wage in Turkey.

What? Not Adults

FROM the sparkling Feminist column which Mildred Seydell conducts in the Atlanta *Georgian*, we cull the following eloquent but unconscious testimonial which she found on a placard, demonstrating the mental attitude engendered by laws and regulations for women and children:

"Ad in an Atlanta newspaper for ball game at Spiller's Park:

"Women and children, 50 cents.

"Adults, 75 cents."

Speed Record

PEGGY SALAMAN, 19-year-old London debutante, recently established the speed record for a plane flight from England to Capetown, South Africa.

Miss Salaman made the flight in five days and six and one-half hours, thus bettering the record of the late Captain Glen Kidston by approximately thirty-five hours.

Though wearing trousers and a shirt for the flight and armed with a revolver for protection in the event of a forced landing in the jungle in the path of her flight, Miss Salaman also carried an expensive evening gown.

She was accompanied by A. Gordon Store, navigator and pilot.

Varied Jobs

FROM detective to disinfectant store owner, Washington women play a wide variety or roles in the business and professional life of the Capital.

This is revealed by a Washington business women's directory being compiled by Alice Jefferis and containing the names and occupations of some 3,000 Washington business women.

Among the occupations chosen by Washington women are those of doctors, lawyers, sewing machine mechanics, transfer storage service operators, antique dealers, architects, brokers, chiropractors, dairy owners, beauty parlor operators, delicatessen store owners, and stenographers.

News from the Field

Mrs. White on Radio

GRACE HOFFMAN WHITE, poet and Feminist, gave a reading from her forthcoming book, "Up Ship," over WJSV on Friday evening, December 4. Mrs. White's delicate and charming lyrical talent has delighted many audiences. She is a platform favorite all over the country, and is especially popular in Washington, where for many years she was one of the leading hostesses in literary and diplomatic circles. Mrs. White was in Washington for the Biennial Convention of the National Woman's Party, held at the Hotel Mayflower on December 5, 6 and 7. She is a member of the National Council of the Woman's Party. She concluded her program with her beautiful tribute to Alice Paul.

Elsie Hill Speaks

ELSIE HILL of Connecticut, former national chairman of the Woman's Party, was guest of honor and speaker at a tea given by the District of Columbia Branch of the Woman's Party at Alva Belmont House on Sunday afternoon, December 13, from four to six. Mrs. Paul Myron Linebarger and the other District officers were hostesses for the occasion.

Miss Hill, whose husband, Dr. Albert Levitt, was independent Republican candidate for Governor of Connecticut in the last election, is Connecticut State chairman of the Woman's Party and a member of the National Council.

She is the daughter of the late Ebenezer Hill, for twenty years a member of Congress. Miss Hill was one of the original members of the Woman's Party and one of the indefatigable leaders in the struggle for equality. She was accompanied by her small daughter, Elsie Hill Levitt, who was made a Woman's Party Founder at her birth.

An eloquent and magnetic speaker, Miss Hill has for long been a favorite in official life in Washington, where she was for a number of years very active in the Congressional Club.

Mrs. James E. Watson of Indiana and Mrs. Porter H. Dale of Vermont, wives of Senators from those States, poured tea.

Feminists Greet Mrs. Caraway

HATTIE CARAWAY, United States Senator from Arkansas, was greeted December 7 in her office by a group of forty members of the National Woman's Party, which closed its three-day Biennial Convention on that day.

Elizabeth T. Kent of California, member of the Council of the National Woman's Party, widow of the late William T. Kent, for many years member of Congress from California, voiced the feeling of the delegation that this was a wonderful moment for the women of the United States who have looked forward so long to the day when there should be a woman in the United States Senate, and pledged to Mrs. Caraway the co-operation, loyalty, and affection of the National Woman's Party.

Gail Laughlin of Maine, vice-chairman of the National Council of the National Woman's Party, and formerly member of the Judiciary Committee of the Maine Legislature, expressed the greetings of one group of women to another woman in the spirit of friendliness, loyalty and co-operation, and said that the National Woman's Party felt very close to the office where they had so many cherished memories of friendliness and co-operation.

The members of the group were presented to Mrs. Caraway by Maud Younger of California, Congressional Chairman of the Woman's Party, but no mention was made of politics and measures. A large deputation from the Woman's Party attended the session of the Senate Tuesday to witness the swearing in of the first woman to fulfill the duties of a Senator for more than a day.

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